Center for Natural Lands Management

A non-profit organization for the protection and management of natural resources

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December 15, 2006

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RE: Calavera Hills Phase II Habitat Conservation Area 2006 Annual Report (S031)

Dear Sirs:

In June of 2006, the Center for Natural Lands Management Center (Center) was deeded a Conservation Easement (CE) by McMillin Homes on the Calavera Hills Phase II Habitat Conservation Area (HCA). This HCA was set aside by McMillin Homes as part of the Calavera Hills Phase II housing development. The HCA is comprised of six villages (Village H, K, R, U, W and X) located between Carlsbad Village Drive, Tamarack Avenue and College Drive in the City of Carlsbad, California (Figure 1). Village R is owned by the Calavera Hills Master Association; Village H is owned by the Calavera Hills II, LLC c/o The Corky McMillan Companies, with the future owner to be the Robertson Ranch Masters Home Owners Association; and Villages K, U, W and X are owned by the Calavera Hills II Home Owners Association. The HCA contains approximately 134.71 acres of dedicated natural open space which consists of mostly Diegan coastal sage scrub.

As part of our management requirements, the Center will report annually its management activities to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and the City of Carlsbad. The Center's 2006 fiscal year was from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. This letter represents the first annual report for this property which includes management activities conducted from June through September 2006.

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Only basic on-site activities occurred during the 2005-2006 fiscal year because the CE was not in place until late in the year. However, the Center did conduct both monitoring and maintenance activities as depicted in Table 1.

During the 2006 fiscal year, the Center visited the property several times per month. We conducted regular patrols and established photo viewpoints for each village. A CE binder was prepared that includes the baseline property conditions for the CE including these photographs. The CE binder contains CE baseline documentation (including photo viewpoints) and CE monitoring procedures. The baseline documentation is how the Center establishes the current habitat quality and condition of a property at the time a CE is granted. If a CE violation occurs, the baseline documentation is the evidence necessary to prove that violation and win resolution. The monitoring policy included in the CE binder was designed to standardize the Center's monitoring of CE properties. It ensures that all CE properties are being managed appropriately while ensuring continuity and consistency in reporting among the Center's staff.

Other activities included surveys for thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*) and the removal of nonnative weeds and trash (Table 1). No thread-leaved brodiaea were located in the previously mapped thread-leaved brodiaea population locations. This is likely because of low rainfall conditions.

A five-year Management Plan (Plan) was developed in 2002 for the site by Planning Systems Inc. This Plan has been submitted to the wildlife agencies and the City of Carlsbad. Along with this annual report, the Center will be submitting an annual work plan that will outline and discuss the proposed activities at the HCA for the next fiscal year (2006-2007).

Please contact us if you have any question or comments.

Sincerely,

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Table 1. Summary of Site Visit Activities

Date	Activity	Hours
6 June 2006	Kick-off tour of Calavera property; review documents; and make checklist of items to accomplish on Calavera	8
14 June 2006	Survey known locations for thread-leaved brodiaea	3
	Met with weed removal crew to assist with fennel (Foeniculum vulgare) removal in native grassland habitat	
26 and 27 June	Establish baseline conditions and take photos and notes on all of Calavera villages. Locate new itinerant camps, weed infestations and trash on Calavera. Documented site conditions and discussed removal of trash and itinerant camp debris with client	16
31 July 2006	Met with client and fence contractor to have pipe gates installed on San Diego Gas & Electric easements; posted itinerant camps with letter requesting that they not live in the Calavera preserve	3
10 August	Worked with weed removal crew to remove large infestation of myoporum, killed eucalyptus, and pampas grass as well and checked to make sure that itinerant camps and inhabitants left	6

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Calavera Hills Phase II Habitat Conservation Area



Property Boundary

Figure 1